BENGALURU, MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2023 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

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Waterfalls of winter

Forest department eases restrictions at some areas for visitors; tourists can witness these glorious sights with abundant caution

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Many from the city prefer to head to the waterfalls during the rainy season. However, locals say that this is the right time to visit waterfalls at a few remote places as the forest department has eased restrictions and allowed tourists to visit the falls via online booking. For example, Malavatige village in Belthangady taluk of Dakshina Kannada district is considered as home to numerous waterfalls like Ermayi, Kadamagundi, Elaneeru and Bangaparalke. Bandaje waterfalls are thronged by visitors as water cascades from a height of 200 feet.

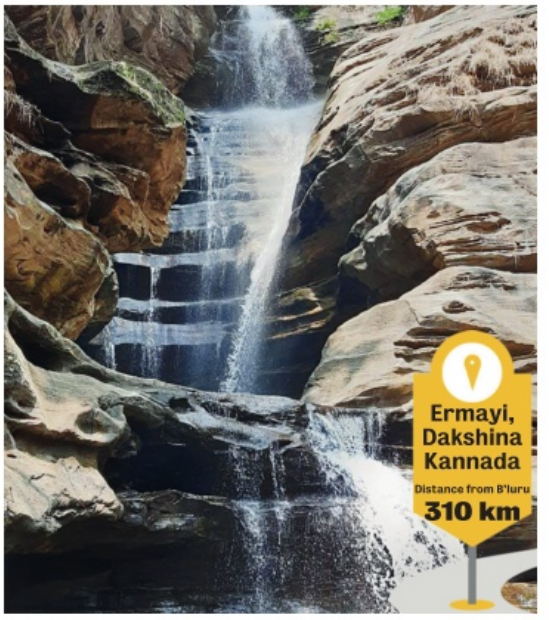
Swati, RFO of Belthangady region, said, "We have withdrawn the restrictions imposed on tourists in Belthangady taluk. Those visiting the waterfalls can book their tickets online. However, the restriction will continue for Bangarapalke waterfalls. We are ensuring cleanliness near the waterfalls and imposing fines on those who try to litter."

A local of the area said that the Western Ghats receive heavy rainfall during the South West Monsoon and so though the waterfalls come to life during the rainy season, it is very dangerous to venture inside the forest to view these waterfalls. However environmentalists say that despite the restrictions being eased, one needs to be extremely careful while visiting the water falls. "The routes to waterfalls pass via dense forest which has the presence of wild animals and reptiles.

The tourists should avoid cooking in the open or smoking as it can lead to forest fires. There are no basic amenities including provision for drinking water or hotels," said an expert.

Most of these waterfalls are a visual treat. However, as they are located in the forest, the travelers need to exercise utmost caution. It is advisable not to travel during rains as these areas witness one of the heaviest rainfall during monsoon. For those waterfalls which are located in the forest, permission from the forest department would be required. It is always advisable to take the help of locals while travelling. The waterfalls are nice to look at from a distance.

However, many try to go near the falls which can be fatal. For example, at Bangarupalke waterfalls, a student was trapped under mud due to a landslide. His body was found 23 days later. As of now, there is heavy rainfall in the area and it is not advisable to visit the waterfalls right now.



Keep this in mind before you get packing

- First things first, make sure that you are not taking with you too much plastic or packaging that you would seek to leave behind. Littering and vandalising a place of natural beauty is a strict no.
- Though most people prefer to head to the waterfalls in the monsoon, it is safer to go there when it is not raining too much.
- Waterfalls are best enjoyed when watched from a safe distance as bravado can get you too close to danger and can even prove fatal
- It is not advisable to smoke in the jungles as this can cause forest fires and it is better to avoid cooking as that can attract the wild animals and create an unnecessary confrontational situation. Always respect that you are in their territory.
- Taking a local guide along with you is advised as there are chances of getting lost in the remote areas. The locals can also advise you better on precautions to be taken to avoid risks.

Testing agency unleashes JEE mayhem

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Amidst session one of JEE mains exam 2023, students have been pointing out several issues with the issuance of admit cards, examination centres and dates.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) is conducting the first session for JEE mains from January 25 to February 1 and session 2 from April 6 to 12. The admit cards are being released three days before the exams, the students told Bangalore Mirror. "My exam is on January 31 and I received the admit card on January 28.

As there was use of unfair means in the past exams, the NTA is revealing the exam centre only three days before the scheduled date of exam. But, because of that, many of us have faced problems. Some of my fellow aspirants have gotten a centre they did not apply for in their preferences or have got a centre that is too far," said Abhishek, an engineering aspirant from Bengaluru.

Many students have taken their complaints to the NTA demanding change in the centre or date but due to a limited time, many have not received any response. "Every year this happens but the NTA is not taking any responsibility. Students face this every year in JEE, NEET, CUET and all nationwide entrance tests. We have received so many complaints from all over the country regarding issues with admit cards and centres. For some students, their admit cards were made available just 24 hours before their scheduled examination date. Others have complained that they have got centres that are around 200 km away from their homes.

As they are being informed 2-3 days prior to the exam, it has become difficult to get a centre change also," explained Advocate Anubha Sahai, an activist who has been advocating for JEE and NEET aspirants. Students say since the timetable for the exam was released only about 40 days before phase 1, they did not get enough time for the preparation.

"For some students, the exam dates are clashing or are too close to the practical or viva dates. Those who had dropped out earlier, on the other hand, have hardly had four months to prepare as the last counselling was conducted in October.

And though CBSE and ICSE might finish their exams before April 2023, many state board exam dates might clash with the second phase of the exam. That is why we are demanding an extra attempt just for this year as this has not been planned well by NTA," said Pravaal Kumar, another JEE aspirant. Students said while they have been trying to reach NTA, they have only received automated replies and haven't been able to contact anyone in person.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Space trashed

If you think we have only managed to trash our beloved city, hear what Dr VK Anandan (Deputy Director, ISRO, ISTRAC Radar Development Area (RDA) has to say. At the graduation day programme of Dayananda Sagar University, he said, "Space can soon become worse than Bengaluru roads." When he was quizzed by journos, he elaborated, "Currently, outer space requires bigger attention. The alarming situation is that there is a lot of garbage in space. When I say space garbage, it is nothing but space debris. As per the latest analysis, there are 30,000 objects of more than one centimetre in size and moving at a speed of 8 km per second."

The other side

With elections approaching, our netas are showing their talents. Many leaders are busy organising 'Utsavs' to draw a crowd. During the recent Chikkamagaluru Utsav, local MLA CT Ravi showed his informal face. During the first few days, he was seen dancing with his wife to the foot tapping music. Then, Ravi was invited to the stage where he showed that he was a good drummer as well. Earlier, during Chikkaballapur utsav organised by Minister for Health Dr K Sudhakar, the Chikkaballapur MLA showed how he was good at singing too. During the last day of the show, Sudhakar joined other singers to sing famous Kannada songs.

Raining money

Minister of Small Scale Industries and Municipal Administration N Nagaraju (popularly known as MTB) was in for controversy when a few videos surfaced where money was showered at Qawwali singers. However, when journalists asked the minister as to whether it was right on his part to shower money, Nagaraju was quick to wriggle out of the issue. He said, "It was the public who were showering Rs 5 and Rs 10 notes and not me. I was merely watching what was happening. If you want, I will send WhatsApp messages so that you can verify."

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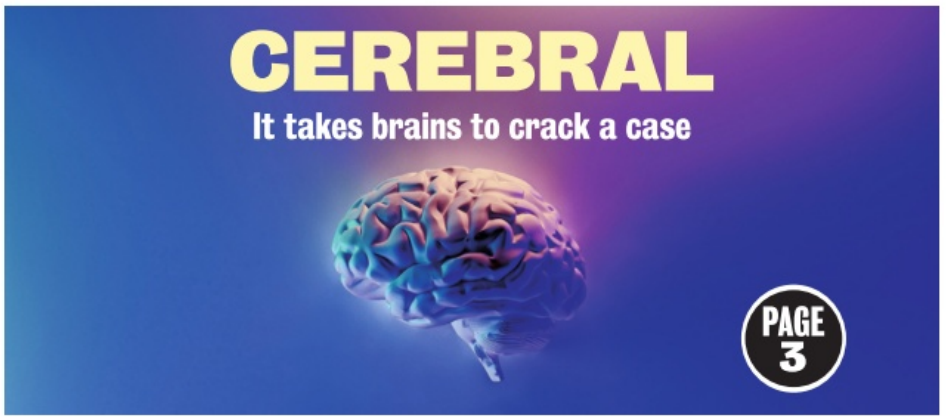


Over 2,000 tech park employees, college students inconvenienced as traffic police turn stretch into one-way without consultation

AIN'T NO WAY

Citizens question absence of traffic police personnel at junctions

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Bangalore Traffic Police have been working hard to facilitate smooth movement of traffic. For instance, they have introduced one-way traffic on certain roads for the benefit of motorists.

However, one of their initiatives on Hosur Road has been causing a lot of inconvenience to over 2,000 people working at AMR Tech Park and the students of Oxford College who frequent the stretch in question.

To ease the traffic congestion at Bommanahalli Junction, the traffic police made the service road on Hosur Road near the AMR Tech Park one-way. Though the traffic congestion has been reduced at Bommanahalli Junction, the conversion of the service road into a one-way has become a hurdle for thousands of motorists.

"The traffic police introduced a one-way norm on this service road about one-and-half months ago. They did not consult the commuters. I was shocked to see a one-way board put up here without any

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Traffic jam at Suranjan Das Road and Jeevan Bhima Nagar Main Road Junction; (inset) One-way on Hosur road

"There are occasions where I could not reach the workplace on time due to the traffic jam at Bommanahalli Junction
— Venkatesh HS, commuter

No water for plants by the lake

Who will water the plants? Officials pass the buck

| Iffath.Fathima@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A peculiar case concerning watering of saplings has come to light at the Doddakallasandra Lake, where over 300 saplings planted by an authority are on the verge of dying now due to lack of care and no one to tend to.

According to local residents, there were over 1,000 plus saplings planted last year during the months of June and July; however now close to 300 saplings have seemingly dried up with no watering and lack of maintenance.

Regular walkers at the lake are trying to reach out to various authorities for the upkeep of plants, but the departments are passing the buck.

According to the residents and walkers, it was the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike that had planted the saplings last year to help the biodiversity of the lake during its rejuvenation.

However, now as the plants have started to dry up, when the team contacted the BBMP lakes department, they stated that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Performing arts

Body Matters: Move to Transform presented by Attakkalar's Arts in Education Festival is a month-long festival that celebrates the cultural skills that play a significant role in developing innovative education scenes in India. It is supported by the Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka. **Where: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur; When: February 1 to 26**

02 On the golf course

The annual inter school golf tournament conducted by Canadian International School is back. This time the students of the age between 6 and 18 can participate in the tournament. Junior golfers from different schools from in and around Karnataka are expected to participate.
Where: Prestige Augusta Golf Village, Kothanur
When: February 3

03 Opera scenes

A series of workshops and performances supported by Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia and Canton du Valais is being conducted in Bengaluru. Video installation, architecture and music performances are combined to present New Paradigm Opera. This is a new kind of opera, which is based on Virginia Woolf's novel.
Where: Goethe Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, CMH Road, Indiranagar
When: February 2 and 3; 7 pm

A culture lesson for Bengaluru's students

UGC requests institutions to organise annual tourism study tours for students

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

To help students get a glimpse of the culture of Karnataka and beyond, universities and colleges in the city may soon start organising annual tourism study tours about Indian heritage, culture, architecture, wildlife, etc.

The University Grant Commission (UGC) has recently requested all the higher educational institutes to identify a tourism destination, encourage students to learn about the destination, organise activities centred around it throughout the year and encourage them to visit the places as a part of the annual study tour. This would help students increase their knowledge about the country. "There are already certain courses where we do annual study tours for the student such as master of social work, certain MBA courses.

So as part of field studies, these study tours have always been there at universities. By extending it to all the students and making it mandatory for the learning process, it would be beneficial in learning our culture, architecture and society," said Lingaraj Gandhi, Vice Chancellor of Bangalore City University (BCU).

However, as part of the NEP, the students already have to compulsorily study open electives, languages, ability enhancement courses, skill enhancement courses, value-based activities apart from their core course.

Now the concern is that for the first two years, out of 26 credits only eight credits are for the core courses. So, domain learning might be restricted in some way, the students feel. But the idea is that NEP aims for holistic and multidisciplinary learning and the importance of skills. Therefore, such suggestions and recommendations are being made by the UGC for higher educational institutes.

The Vice Chancellor added that if such activities are introduced at the universities, it would enhance experiential learning and field knowledge among the student community.

The universities have been recommended to organise study tour to important tourist attractions, wildlife sanctuaries, etc

> **"Study tours not only enhance learning but also help the students to develop their character and personality**
> – Lingaraj Gandhi, Vice Chancellor, Bangalore City University

"Study tours and field tours not only enhance learning; it also helps the students to develop their character and personality. Therefore, these suggestions will help the universities to integrate these aspects into the learning process. It is a welcome suggestion by the UGC," he explained. The universities have been recommended to organise an annual study tour of two-three days' duration. The students should visit some important tourist attractions, sites of historical importance, museums, wildlife sanctuaries, handicraft centres, etc.

Activities among the students such as painting competitions, essay writing, quiz competition, etc may also be carried out throughout the year keeping the destination as the theme. Moreover, the students are also being encouraged to post their live experiences on social media and also prepare a report and submit to the university after the visit.

Whitefield Habba: A fun-filled day

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Sunday was quite different for the students of 12 government schools in and around Whitefield. Around 200 students and teachers of the government schools gathered at Nexus Mall, Whitefield to participate in Whitefield Habba organised by Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore IT Corridor, and Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor.

Whitefield Habba provided an opportunity for most of the students to access the mall as they belong to economically weaker families and their parents neither have sufficient money for shopping as majority of them work as housemaids and security guards.

"I am entering a mall for the first time. I am very happy and excited to have this opportunity. I am assigned to work at the library section. My job is to give books to students and ask them to do book reviews," said Rakshita Bhandari, a student of Government High School, Ramagondanahalli.

The Whitefield Habba was open to the public too apart from the students of 12 government schools. The event gave opportunities to government school children to showcase the progress that their schools have made in the past and the multifold benefits they have accrued. Games, rangoli competitions, fancy dress competitions, read-a-thon, all in all made a great outing for the children and their parents. "I have come here to participate in a rangoli competition. My mother helped me to learn to do rangoli," said Indu S, a student of Government High School, Immadihalli.

According to Jayasheela D, headmistress, Government High School, nine students of the school visited the mall to participate in dance and fancy dress competitions. She also thanked the organisers. Rock bands from some of the communities of Whitefield also performed, and that gave those children an opportunity to interact with the government school children and be aware of a world beyond theirs.

The highlight of the evening was the Yakshagana, by professional and leading artists.

Around 200 government school students participated at Nexus Mall, Whitefield

The IWCBITC stall was abuzz with activities. "The Whitefield Habba showcased our motto of service and friendship to society and being part of it is my privilege," said Shanti Subramanian, president, IWCBITC. Sarala Menon, former president of IWCBITC described it as an outstanding event at the mall where the children participated with hundred per cent enthusiasm, and had full support of their teachers.

MLA nod to transferring Kanva scam probe to CBI

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

At the urging of the Kanva Scam Claimants' Welfare Forum, Karnataka Cooperation Minister has agreed to transfer the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The moves come due to the delay in investigation by the Crime Investigation Department (CID) to identify the recoverable assets.

At a meeting held with the Kanva Scam Claimants' Welfare Forum on January 28, the Karnataka Minister for Cooperation ST Somashekhar Gowda assured the complainants that the case would be transferred to CBI.

Speaking to the victims at the meeting, he said that he would request the transfer.

"The case needs to be thoroughly investigated by the competent authority and it needs to be handed over to CBI. I have spoken to the Chief Minister regarding this. Within a week, we will make all provisions for the transfer of the case to the CBI."

Dr Muralidhar Lakkana, president of Kanva Scam Claimants' Welfare Forum told Bangalore Mirror that the forum had requested for CBI investigation in the matter as even after three years of the scam, there hasn't been much progress.

"Even after entrusting the case to CID, they have not been able to identify 40 per cent of the assets. Since 2019, there has been a request to transfer the case to the CBI. But the state government insisted on the Karnataka CID investigating the matter," he said.

"MLA Somashekhar also expressed displeasure with the progress of the investigation and has decided to transfer the case to CBI. In the coming session, the issue will be presented in the Cabinet," he added.

There are nearly 23,000 victims who are struggling to get justice since the scam came to light in 2019. Collectively, the victims involved in the scam lost more than Rs 500 crore to the Kanva Souharda Co-operative Credit Limited (KSCCL).

According to Vimala SS, one of the victims and resident of Rajajinagar, she is struggling to make both ends meet, especially after the death of her husband due to covid.

"My daughter has a minor hearing problem. Since my husband passed away due to covid, I have been struggling to get justice. For the past three years, I have not been able to pay my son's school fees. I had invested Rs 3 lakh in the scheme but was cheated. Additionally, I was promised work for a salary of Rs 15,000 and I worked for 40 days but they did not credit my salary," she said.

It takes brains to crack a case. And you can also use brain mapping

For first time in Karnataka, accused undergoes brain-mapping in case of sexual assault and murder of minor

Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

To get information out of the accused has always been a tough task for the police, but now the use of brain mapping on the accused is making it easier to solve cases.

For the first time in the state, the police have investigated a case based on brain mapping in Ramanagara.

According to the police, a case was registered against a lawyer from Kanakapura for killing and sexually assaulting a minor boy. The case was going on for months but the police weren't able to find any evidence as the lawyer would not speak up.

K Santosh Babu, Superintendent of Police, Ramanagara, told Bangalore Mirror that during the interrogation, the lawyer was not cooperative at all and was trying to hide information.

"We got information about the accused through another person but that was not enough to prove any charges. We weren't able to investigate the case based on only oral confirmation. Therefore, when brain electrical oscillation profiling was introduced in November, we decided that this is the right case to test the technology," he said.

While doing the test the accused was shown various images related to his personal life and related to the minor who was missing, then experts studied the report and then the police got to know to what extent the lawyer was involved in the crime, he added.

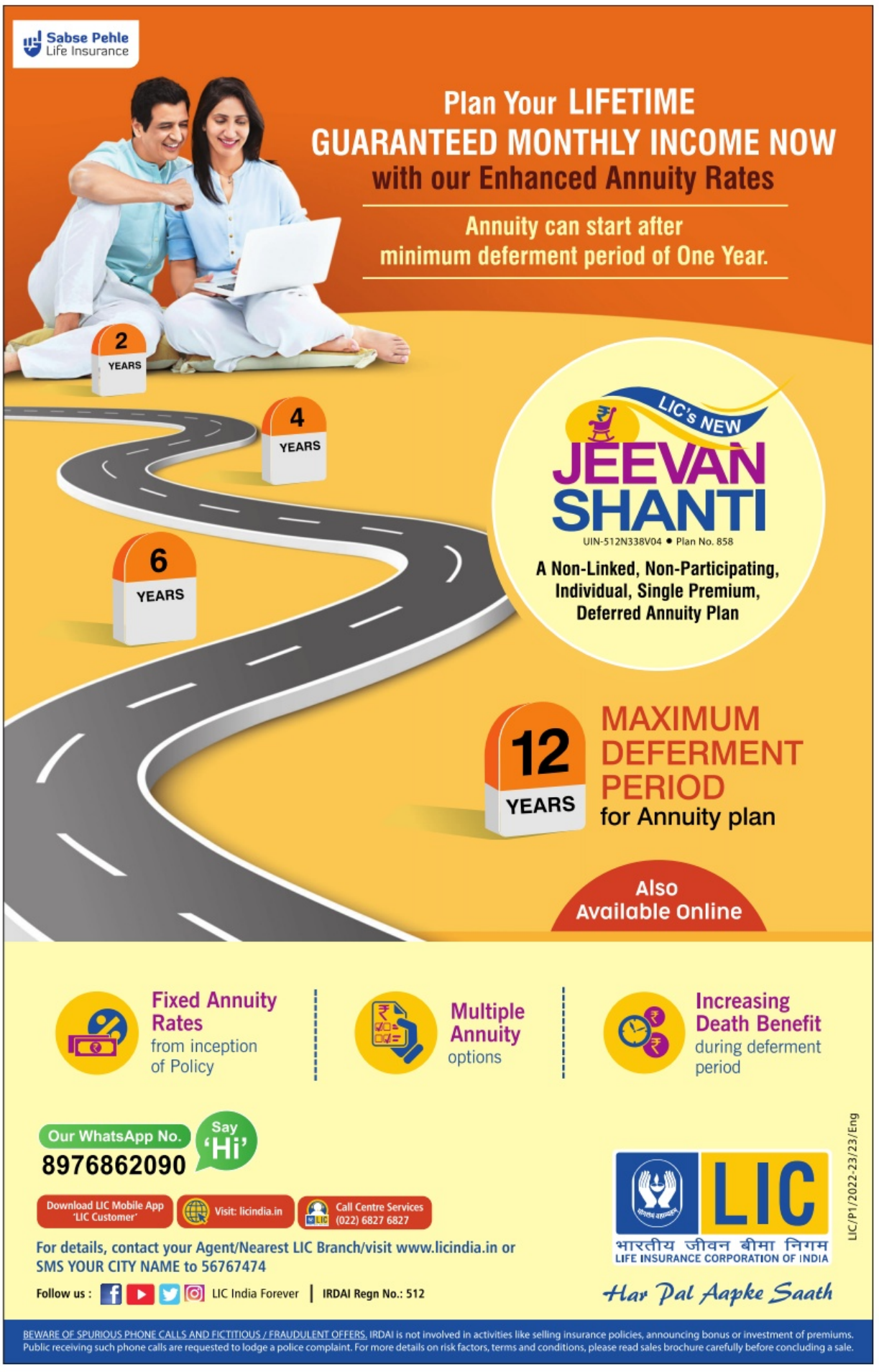
"After the brain mapping test, not only did we find that the person killed the boy, we also found that he had disposed of the minor's dead body in a water body," he explained.

The police will be using more brain mapping technology in the near future where the accused is not cooperating while giving information, he informed.

In the brain mapping test, the accused is placed in front of a computer screen with a sensor attached to their head. The suspect is then shown hundreds of images or they hear sounds. The entire case is investigated based on an expert's report. According to the police, the experts study the moods and emotions of the accused after showing the images.

> **"We had obtained consent from the accused and the court. Courts across the country have accepted brain mapping evidence. We are confident that the Karnataka court will agree with our witnesses**

"We had obtained consent from the accused and the court. Courts across the country have accepted brain mapping evidence. We are confident that the Karnataka court will agree with our witnesses," he further added.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Want votes? Build roads

Koramangala residents hold silent vigil over Ejipura flyover, link road delays

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Over 150 residents carried out a silent vigil at the Ejipura signal on Sunday. This was due to the delay in construction of the Ejipura flyover and disregard about the demand by Koramangala residents for building a road connecting Ejipura with Sarjapur Road. The residents stated that 'no road' would lead to 'no vote'.

In 2017, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had handed over a contract for building the flyover to Simplex Infrastructure Limited, but only 47 per cent work was carried out in a span of five years. The contract was scrapped in April 2022, and now, the BBMP is looking at completing the flyover in 2024. The long delay over the completion of 2.5 km has left locals frustrated.

They also highlighted the need for a link road which was included in the Revised Master Plan (2015). However, nothing started on the ground.

Raghu Rajagopal, a resident of Koramangala, said, "The link road would serve as a great mobility plan for the residents of Koramangala. According to the initial plan, it would connect the inner ring road to the outer ring road (ORR), which would allow easy access of traffic from Indiranagar, Domlur, Ulsoor, and Ejipura. This will further lead to HSR Layout, Agara, Sarjapura, Bellandur, and ORR. The BBMP made two Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for this, but no work was started."

Residents pointed out that the link road has to go through defence land. Despite a blanket approval, nothing moved on ground. "During the time when HD Kumarswamy was the Chief Minister, he got an approval from Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

The Ejipura flyover's unfinished state has been irking locals for years (File photo); people took to the streets on Sunday to highlight official apathy about their request for a link road from Ejipura to Sarjapur (below)

> **"The link road would serve as a great mobility plan for Koramangala locals. It would connect inner and outer ring road**
> – Raghu Rajagopal, resident

But after his term, no work was started. As the road also goes through the Bellandur lake, BBMP states that it will have to go through the buffer zone of the lake. However, if it is rightly planned, there will be no violation. In the end it all comes down to how seriously the elected representative and BBMP want to take up the project," added Rajagopal. Another resident, Menon, said that there was no survey done or budget planned for the linked road. "It is a 2.5-km stretch of flyover that is taking more than seven years." The flyover will let people commute easily to Electronic city and BTM Layout, he said, adding that the government can get the projects running, but is not focusing on the needs of Koramangala residents. If no road is made, there will be no vote in the upcoming elections, he told Bangalore Mirror.

Another resident pointed out that a silent vigil will be carried out every two weeks until the elections. "If no progress is made by the BBMP, we will not vote. Both MP Tejasvi Surya and MLA Ramlingam Reddy have not taken any interest in executing such long pending projects," they said.

Dr Vishnuvardhan memorial becomes reality

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The dream of many Vishnuvardhan fans and family members came true on Sunday with the Sahasa Simha Dr Vishnuvardhan memorial becoming reality. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai inaugurated the memorial constructed in Halalu village on Mysore-HD Kote Road. With this, the state government has met a decade-old demand. "I am very happy to see our 13-year-old struggle bearing fruit. It is the result of lakhs of fans and family members struggling. The state has allocated five acres of land and sanctioned funds for the construction of the memorial which has been constructed on three acres of land," said Dr Vishnuvardhan's son-in-law Anirudha Jatkar.

The government sanctioned Rs 11 crore for the construction of the memorial which was finally built on three acres of land. The memorial has a photo gallery that showcases around 700 rare photographs and movie posters of Dr Vishnuvardhan. "A 6.5 feet-tall statue of Dr Vishnuvardhan has been installed at a place where his ashes were kept in a vessel. The construction of the memorial was done by Dr Vishnuvardhan Prathishtana Trust for which CM Bommai is the chairman," said Jatkar.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai at the inauguration of the memorial

The memorial has a well-equipped 200-seat auditorium suitable for holding seminars, meetings, and film/theatre workshops. "Revenue generated by this auditorium will go to Dr Vishnuvardhan Prathishtana. The auditorium has many facilities including green rooms, a canteen, and restrooms. We have requested the Chief Minister to facilitate the Film and Television Institute of India branch on the remaining two acres of land because it will be the first of its kind in South India. He has responded positively," he added. Dr Vishnu Sena Samiti, president, Veeraputra Sreenivas, said that many people wanted to have a memorial for Dr Vishnuvardhan in Bengaluru where his mortal remains were cremated.

He said he has filed a petition in the court seeking direction to the state government to recover the land given to late Kannada movie actor Balakrishna on a lease to construct Abhiman Studio on Uttarahalli Main Road.

I came here as Vishnuvardhan's fan: Chief Minister

Speaking after inaugurating Dr Vishnuvardhan's memorial, Bommai said that he came to the memorial as one of the fans of Dr Vishnuvardhan. "I happened to see Vishnuvardhan's photo of the Kannada movie Nagarahaavu on the front page of a vernacular daily in 1972. I watched Nagarahavu and became his fan," said Bommai.

He said that Vishnuvardhan played a variety of lead roles in more than 200 Kannada movies and his wife Bharathi was a great support for him.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Keep it safe

Nandini Layout

Roadside drains are being dug up without a safety barricade and warning board near 17th Main in Nandini Layout.

Wrong information

Nandini Layout

A road across 25th Main near BHEL Park, Nandini Layout has been wrongly named as 25th Main Road.

Toilets needed

Devatha Plaza

Men from basement shops in Devatha Plaza have no toilet facility and urinate outside.

B'luru is blowing hot and cold these days

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The city is continuing to experience diurnal temperature variation (difference between day and night temperatures) where the days are getting hotter while the nights are staying quite chilly. Weather experts said that as Bengaluru weather is moving from winter to summer, many are observing drastic changes between day and night temperatures. According to the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), many areas are already reporting daily temperatures above 30 degree Celsius (DC). The south zone reported the highest (30.5 DC), followed by the east zone (30.10 DC), and Bommanahalli (30 DC). The lowest day temperature was reported in the west zone (26.8 DC). However, night temperatures continued to stay low. For example, the south zone recorded the lowest night temperature at 10.6 DC, while Yelahanka recorded 11.2 DC, RR Nagar, 12.6 DC, and Dasarahalli, 14.8 DC.

As Bengaluru slowly transitions from winter to summer, many are observing a drastic change between temperatures recorded during the day and at night

According to an IMD report, HAL Airport recorded a temperature of 28 DC (0.4 degrees less than normal). However, Bengaluru City reported 29.4 DC, which was 0.6 degree higher than the normal. Overall, dry weather prevailed over the state. Bidar and Mysuru recorded the lowest minimum temperature of 11 DC. Dry weather will continue for a day or two. The minimum temperature is likely to be two or three degrees below the normal in isolated places in interior Karnataka. In Bengaluru, there will be a mainly clear sky with mist likely during the early hours in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 29 and 15 DC, respectively.

Doctors say that the variation in the diurnal temperature could result in respiratory issues. A city-based doctor said, "Our OPDs continue to see a surge in respiratory cases, courtesy variation in day and night temperature. Many of the patients are complaining of upper respiratory tract issues as well as viral fever. Parents need to ensure that kids are properly dressed and not allowed to go out unnecessarily at night. This applies to senior citizens too."

Meanwhile, there has been no drastic rise in covid cases in the city although there has been a slight increase in hospital admissions. According to Saturday's health bulletin, the city's test positivity rate was at around 0.85 per cent. In the state, 19 patients are hospitalised (including 16 in Bengaluru). Out of the 19, three are being treated in ICUs.

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

'Tree-t us better'

Citizens upset over 43 trees in RMV 2nd stage being axed despite objections

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

"Currently, for any project, trees are the first to go because they have no voice. Tree cutting cannot be a liberal, unsparing act employed by all and sundry – Tree activist

As many as 43 fully grown trees standing near the Radhakrishna temple in RMV 2nd stage will soon make way for the Bruhat Bengaluru's Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) stormwater drain widening project. While 42 trees will be axed, one will be translocated.

The permission regarding the removal and translocation of the trees was accorded by the Tree Expert Committee (TEC) through an official memorandum on Wednesday.

The order was passed after the BBMP sought permission to remove 60 trees through a public notice a few months ago as they were 'standing within the project area'.

The notice had also invited objections and suggestions from the public.

Seven objections were received by the Palike within ten days. Apart from highlighting the loss of green cover, some objections mentioned that the existing drain is fully built and wide. Moreover, they also stated that the real issue leading to the flooding of the stormwater drain is encroachment.

According to BBMP officials, the existing drain does not have the capacity to take internal flow during the rainy season.

"There is no other solution to the problem. Moreover, there are no encroachments on the drain which was de-silted before the monsoon season," said the document released by the civic body.

In response to the proposal, TEC visited the area and ordered the removal of 43 trees.

Interestingly, the order has been passed despite concerns raised by netizens and tree activists. Locals say that the veracity of this project needs to be ascertained and investigated.

They opine that the process of putting up a public notice and inviting objections is an eyewash.

"There were many objections filed for the road widening project between Cauvery junction and Mekhri Circle. However, the BBMP still went ahead and chopped the trees. They must listen to what the citizens want. I have visited the site. There is a lot of encroachment on the said stormwater drain. These encroachments must be removed first. To axe trees that are between the ages of 10 and 30 years is not the solution," said Susan Cherian, a resident of the area.

According to another resident, even a single objection filed by citizens should not be discounted, as has been the case.

"If objections were received, how do they discount those and start the process again? Do citizens' voices and opinions have no bearing on the BBMP? What is the legacy we leave behind for the future?" she questioned.

Citizens also demand to see the DPR about each project that involves tree cutting and is taken up by the civic body. Moreover, each project undertaken should have an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) done.

"Currently, for any project, the trees are the first to go because they have no voice. There may not be a budget for the project. It can be stalled indefinitely, or as is the case in most situations, the project undertaken is not thought out and is usually a knee-jerk reaction to demanding political or influential persons.

Tree cutting cannot be a liberal and unsparing act employed by all and sundry. The larger picture and impact have to be studied by experts and then be discussed with all the stakeholders," said a city-based tree activist.

Road rage caught on dashcam

On January 29, a video surfaced on twitter showing a bike colliding with a car and then following the car for 5 km when the driver refused to get out. According to sources, the incident happened on Sunday at 3 am.

East Bengaluru's Citizens Movement shared the video on Twitter that included dashcam (dashboard camera) footage from a car. The car was spotted on an empty road when two people on bikes were seen approaching it at the next curve. The video showed the bikers deliberately colliding with the car.

Following that, both riders got down and started asking the driver to get out.

East Bengaluru's Citizens Movement tweeted, "Horrific incident reported on Sarjapur Road near Sofas & More around 3 am today. Miscreant riders collided purposefully with a couple traveling in a car. They chased the car for 5 km to their society in Chikkanayakanahalli. Don't open your car at night. Use a dashcam." Bengaluru City Police was also mentioned in the tweet.

Kala Krishnaswamy, DCP, Traffic east, said that such road rage incidents are not acceptable. Police have initiated action against the accused.

A case has been registered with Bellandur Police in this regard.

Fresh exams for 545 PSI posts

Praveen Sood, the Director General of police, stated that a new test will be held to fill the 545 Police Sub-Inspector (PSI) positions. Since irregularities and a scam in the test procedure came to light, the PSI recruiting exam has been a hot topic in the state.

The DGP took to social media and said, "We have conducted exams for RSI (CAR/ DAR), Special RSI KSRP, and PSI KSISF (tom).

We are prepared to undertake a re-examination for 545 PSI positions, but we must await the court order that has prevented us from doing so until the case is resolved. We will follow the court's ruling."

Additionally, he stated that the PSI postings will be up for re-examination after 402 posts are filled.

Dried up after planting on lakeside

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they have not carried out any such plantation.

"We carry out the development works; generally the planting of saplings is taken up by the BBMP's forest cell or horticulture department. The lake has been developed now. We were alerted by some of the residents about the plants drying up," said Shivalingappa, executive engineer, of BBMP's lakes division.

When BM contacted the deputy conservator of forest, BBMP forest cell, the DCF stated that no plantations were carried out by the cell.

"Last year we did not carry out any plantation as a High Court stay order prevented us from taking up plantation in the city. We are going to start planting this year. The plantation done in Doddakallasandra Lake is not done by the BBMP forest cell."

Meanwhile Shivalingappa pointed out that he had contacted the BBMP horticulture department to check upon the plants — the officials were to carry out the watering of plants, but it wasn't started, he gathered.

When contacted the deputy director of horticulture department (BBMP) did not have any clue of the plantations carried out: "We are carrying out some planting of trees at Doddakallasandra Lake this year. I'm not sure if it was done last year. I have to verify with my officers."

The members from Doddakallasandra Lake Protection Committee reached out to many officials but did not get any positive response so far.

"Saplings have started to dry up and there is no one to look after them. Lakhs of rupees have been spent for lake development and plantation; but then, maintenance is not being carried out. We are now confused as to who should take care of these plants; is it the BBMP lakes department, forest cell or horticulture department?" asked Raghvendra Pacchapur, lake activist.

Some officials even pointed out that it could be a non-profit that carried out the plantation drive; but even for an NGO to undertake such a drive, permission should be given by the BBMP.

Waylaid by B'luru traffic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

intimation. I have been working at AMR Tech Park. I have to take a detour of more than one-and-a-half km to reach my work place situated just 500 m away from this road," said Sachin Velayudhan.

Charanjay Singoor, who commutes from Nagarabhavi to his workplace at AMR Tech Park via NICE Road, said he was aware that traffic police are facing difficulties in regulating traffic on this road because of a few hurdles due to the ongoing Namma Metro work.

"I take the NICE Road to avoid traffic and reach office on time but end up in a traffic jam near Bommanahalli Junction because of this one way. I can understand if the traffic police make half-km or a few hundred metres of service road one-way to avoid traffic congestion at Bommanahalli Junction. I don't agree with the traffic police making the one-km stretch on the service road one-way," said Signoor.

Venkatesh HS, who commutes from HSR Layout to AMR Tech Park, expressed disappointment and disgust over the traffic police making the service road one-way. He said he has already raised the issue with the traffic police but nothing has happened till date.

"There are occasions where I could not reach the workplace on time due to the traffic jam at Bommanahalli Junction. I want the traffic police to remove the one-way norm for the benefit of thousands of people working at nearby offices and students of Oxford College. I have also tweeted about this issue but in vain," said Venkatesh.

Meanwhile, Madiwala traffic police inspector said the decision to make the service road one-way was taken to reduce the traffic congestion at Bommanahalli Junction.

"There is some improvement in the movement of traffic at Bommanahalli Junction after making the service road one-way. I am aware of the problems of people working at AMR Tech Park and students of Oxford College. I wrote a letter to the authorities concerned to make an opening to the road divider that was constructed recently. The plan is to facilitate a U-turn for vehicles in between Bommanahalli Junction to reduce the commuting time," said the traffic police inspector.

Chaos on Suranjan Das Road

Hundreds of motorists and auto-rickshaw drivers have to struggle to pass through Jeevan Bhima Nagar Main Road and Suranjan Das Road Junction on certain days in the absence of traffic police personnel. The other disadvantage of this junction is that it has no traffic signal lights. The junction comes under HAL traffic police station though it is just a few hundred metres away from Jeevan Bhima Nagar traffic police station.

"I have not seen traffic police since morning. Generally, a traffic police constable comes here after 8.30 am but today he did not turn up even after 10 am," said a shop owner on a condition of anonymity.

Subhash N, an auto-rickshaw driver, said the traffic police might be busy penalising two-wheeler riders without helmets or vehicle documents. "I have been waiting for more than 10 minutes to pass through this junction. I want the traffic police department to depute a traffic police constable on a daily basis," said Subhash.

Manjunathaswamy S, a two-wheeler rider, demanded that the traffic police install traffic signal lights to regulate the traffic at the junction. "Thousands of motorists have to pass through this junction either to proceed towards Old Madras Road and HAL Airport Road or Jagadish Nagar and other areas," said Manjunathaswamy.

When informed, a traffic police constable at Jeevan Bhima Nagar traffic police station said the junction comes under HAL traffic police station. Meanwhile, HAL traffic police inspector said the traffic police constable might have been moved to another location due to VIP movement on HAL Airport Road. "I will ensure a traffic police constable is at the junction every day," the traffic police inspector said.

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I, AFSHA AIMAN, R/a, No.29,2nd Cross, Anwar Lyt, Coffee Board Colony, Bangalore-560045. I, have changed my name to AFSHA AIMAN TIMRI RIZWAN, Vide affidavit dated 27/01/2023 Sworn before Notary R.Basavaraja, Bangalore

I Rajesh Manjunath Hebbar S/o Manjunath Hebbar R/o No. 40, 2nd Main Road, Gnanabharathi Post, Behind Ganapathi Temple, Gnanabharathi, Bengaluru 560056,ka have changed my name to Rajesh Hebbar for all purposes.

I Chandrakantha.p.g S/O, P.n.gopinath R/o Lig 246, B-7 Block, Surayanagar 3rd Phase, Anekal Taluq, Yadavanahalli, Bengaluru Rural-562107 have changed my name to Chandrakanth.p.g

I, Shobha R W/o G H Jayadeva R/o #117 , Estella Gracious, Chikka Beguru Main Road B'luru-560068 have changed my name to J R Shobha (Jayadeva Ramachandraiah Shobha) for all purposes.

I, SHANTHA O, W/o Omkar.M, aged 69 years, R/o 19, Pranava, 5th main, Dattatreyanagar, Bangalore - 560085, changed my name to SHANTA O dated 25-01-2023, before notary BKR Krishnamurthy

I Husna Bano T M W/O, Syed Irshad Pasha R/o Matadahalli R T Nagar have changed my name to Husna Banu for all purposes.

I Ambika D/O, Kashinath R/o H No 11-1041/136/d, Msk Mill Road, Vijayanagar, Kalaburagi-585103 have changed my name to Ambika Kinni

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Catfight?

Scientists analyse cat videos to figure out difference between playing, fighting

Have you ever worried if the play between your cats was getting too rough? A new study published in Scientific Reports has investigated play and fighting in cats.

Their aim was to use simple behaviours anyone could observe to work out what was play and what might lead to fights.

This is important because the consequences of fights include injuries to animals and humans. At worst, you may even have to rehome one of your cats if they're not getting along.

Categorising cat 'fights'

The study, led by Noema Gajdoš-Kmecová from the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Slovakia and the University of Lincoln, UK, analysed 105 videos of interactions between 210 cats.

The research team then developed an ethogram – a list of specific behaviours used in the study of animal behaviour. These were put into six groups:

Inactive: head and body motionless and in a specific position, for example, crouching

Wrestling: cats in physical contact with wrestling movements

Chasing: one cat runs in pursuit or another cat runs away

Other interactive activities: for example grooming, approaching, and raising fur on the back.

Non-interactive: activity directed towards themselves or an inanimate object, for example, drinking, self-licking

Vocalisation: for example growl, hiss, meow

Each video was analysed to identify which of these behaviours were shown by each cat. Each interaction was then analysed statistically to work out which behaviours appeared together in clusters.

From this, the researchers separated the videos into three categories of interactions.

Playful: included 40 per cent of cats from the videos and included wrestling and a lack of vocalising.

Agonistic: agonistic behaviours are any social behaviours that include threatening, aggression and submission. Cats in this group vocalised and had recurring bouts of inactivity; 32 per cent of cats from the sample landed in this group.

> **If your cats are besties (sleep in close contact and share food and toys) the occasional bit of agonistic play is okay, but if they don't get along, you need to keep an eye**

Intermediate: this group included 28 per cent of cats and was more closely associated with the playful group than the agonistic group. Cats in this group interacted for prolonged periods with pauses in between.

As a crosscheck, these behavioural categories observed from the videos agreed fairly well with how the four authors, experts in cat behaviour, described each interaction.

What does this tell you about your cats' play?

If your cats are wrestling, they are most likely playing. When there is friction between cats in a multi-cat household, they tend to avoid physical contact. Instead, they'll use offensive or defensive manoeuvres that don't involve extended direct contact, such as slapping.

If your cats are vocalising, and chasing between periods of inactivity (such as crouching) they are most likely fighting. Vocalisation is an especially important clue here to an aggressive, rather than playful interaction. Chasing is OK if it's mutual, but if one cat is chasing or one cat is running away, that's not so positive.

The intermediate group is the tricky one. It contains elements of both playful and agonistic behaviours, though was more closely related to the playful than the agonistic group. This suggests play could become agonistic, depending on what happens during the interaction.

In particular, the authors observed frequent breaks within the interaction, which may allow cats to reassess their partner's interest in playing, and avoid escalation from play to aggression.

The big fights are easy to spot

This study is the first to apply a scientific approach to cat behaviours anybody can identify, describing three types of interactions to help identify between play and fighting in cats.

We all know when cats are really fighting, but the main strength is in working out intermediate examples – where it could be OK, but could also escalate.

The study focused on obvious behaviours anybody can observe, but cats can be quite subtle, too. They also use facial expressions, ear and tail placement, and pheromones to communicate. These subtle signals may be just as important in differentiating between what is playing and what is fighting.

If your cats really are besties (sleep in close contact and share food and toys) the occasional bit of agonistic play is okay.

But if your cats don't get on as well, you might need to watch for signs of agonistic behaviours. The tension between cats is not always obvious but can affect their physical and mental health.

If you are unsure if your cats are really getting along, seeking help early from an expert in cat behaviour can prevent a cat-astrophe.

- Susan Hazel and Julia Henning, University of Adelaide (The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Tips to help curb overthinking!

If you think you're the only one that overthinks, you need another think coming for this one. But for everything else, you can put your brain and mind at ease by stopping yourself from indulging in the habit of overthinking. If you've tried to before and failed, here are some coping strategies that are sure to work.

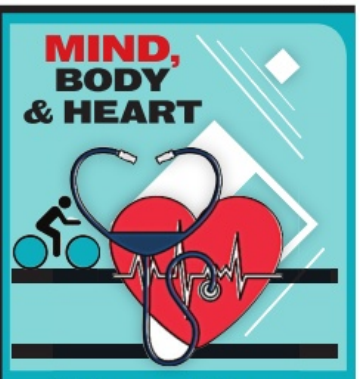
Don't Quit Cold Turkey
Give yourself a worry period – say 30 minutes each day. Take this time to indulge in worrying, being infatuated, second-guessing everything, the works. But once you're done, no more of it for the rest of the day.

Address The Problem
Are you ruminating all the time about your partner and what they meant by their words or actions? Maybe it's not as bad as you think it is, and you'll never know if you keep the thoughts to yourself. Communicate openly to get your answers and put the overthinking to an end.

Find The Positives
There's something good in everything, so seek the same and focus on it. Are you obsessing over being in a relationship? Why not channel the extra time and energy you have now into doing things you love!

Distract Yourself
This could be a hobby such as reading an interesting book, colouring, gardening, spending time with animals, or simply calling up a loved one.

-Kalwyna Rathod (Femina)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a man aged 38 and broke up with my girlfriend a few weeks ago. She's 34 and we'd been together for five years.
I'd known something was going on with her for a while, as she was acting differently and out a lot with her friends. Then one weekend she admitted she wasn't happy and wanted to move on.
I've been trying to piece my life together ever since, and it's not been easy. Last week, I had a big setback when a friend told me that my ex had started seeing another woman and their relationship is serious. My brain is scrambled. During all those years together, she never once indicated that she was bi. I feel like a mug. I've tried to talk to her to make sense of this, but she won't take my calls. What do I do ?

COLEEN SAYS

You'll move on because you have to move on. I don't think an explanation is going to make you feel better at this point.
Maybe she doesn't want to explain – she might be worried she'll hurt you more or you'll argue, and what will it achieve?
She's avoiding the confrontation and she can because the relationship is over, there are no ties and she's made her choice.
There's no getting away from it, the loss of someone you love is really painful, but sometimes you have to let things go for your own sanity and wellbeing.
You weren't a mug at all – you loved her and at some point she loved you, but she's decided she wants something different.
She might not have discovered her bisexuality until recently or until she met this woman, or it might be something she's repressed for a long time. But whatever the reasons, she doesn't want to talk.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
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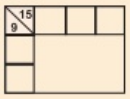
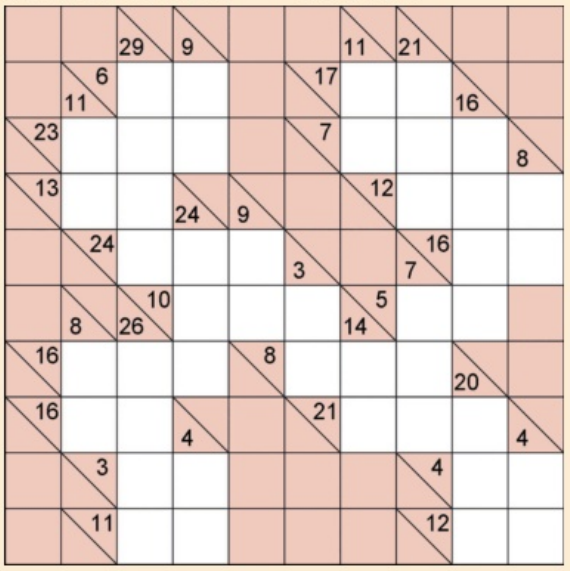
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

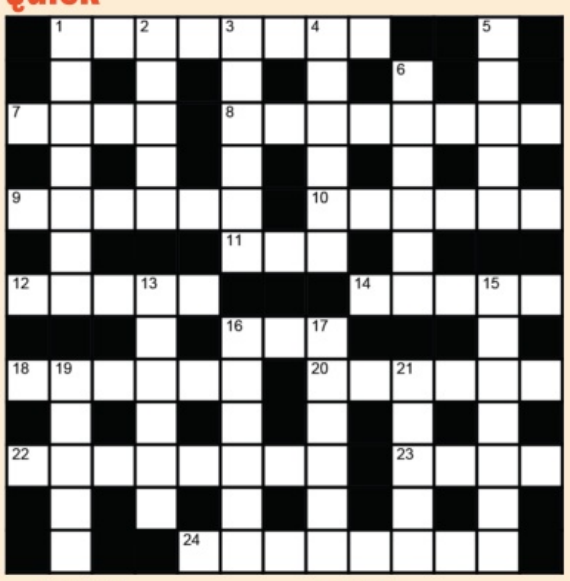


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Crestfallen (8)
7 Low part in music (4)
8 Capital of Bosnia (8)
9 Angelic child (6)
10 Type of bracelet (6)
11 Malt beverage (3)
12 Lawman Earp (5)
14 Makes a dog like sound? (5)
16 Unruly crowd (3)
18 Sitting-room (6)
20 Archer's missiles? (6)
22 Of or pertaining to the empire? (8)
23 Multiplex at Garuda Mall (4)
24 Competitions (8)

DOWN

1 Fatal or ashen (7)
2 More sagacious (5)
3 Winter melon (6)
4 Writer (6)
5 The __ to pay : trouble to be expected? (5)
6 ___ and Ellora caves (6)
13 Tints or shades (6)
15 Shows servility (7)
16 North American country (6)
17 System of voting (6)
19 An abalone? (5)
21 Flood preceder (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: G EQUALS D

GHV'U YHUPDT CHHONVQ WU UPD ZNDS–N PWZD WCTDWGJ RHABHKDG NU.–QEKUWZ AWPCDT

Linemaro

I want to run away with you. I mean walk away, I hate running

Mindchow

A person is a person, no matter how small

Joke of the day

I would go the extra mile for you, in the opposite direction

Loop

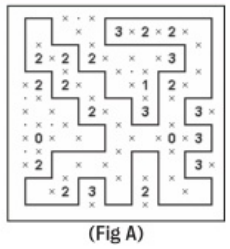
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

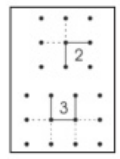
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

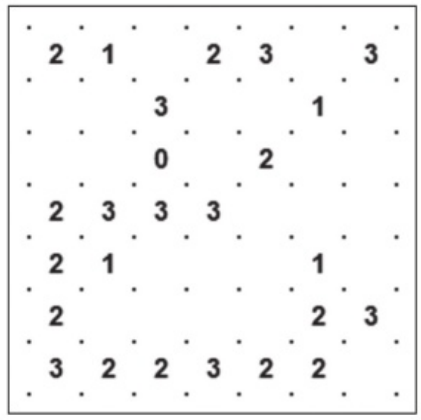
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



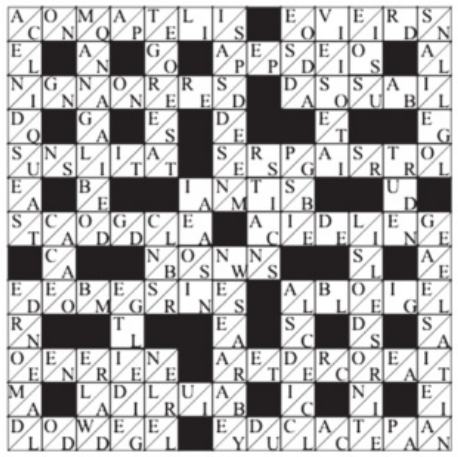
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5 H
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

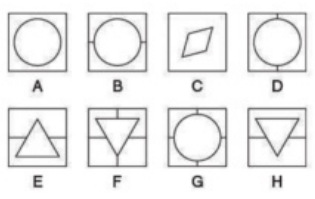
1 C Math; 6 Ligae;
7 Argot; 8 Umami;
9 Scant

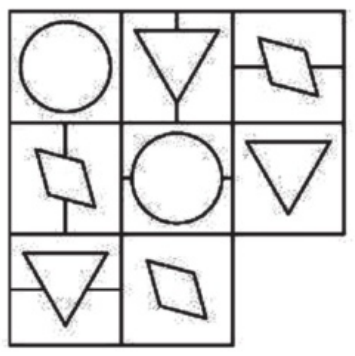
DOWN

1 Gamic; 2 Am Aga;
3 Taint; 4 Lo cut;
5 Me Hrs

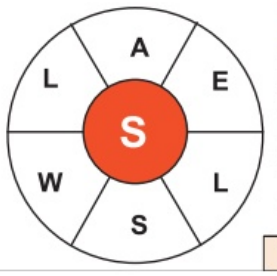
Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing square?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

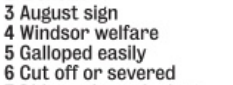
SudokuChallenge

		8				6		
	3		4		6		8	
	6	2		3		1	7	
			2		7			
6		5	1		8	2		7
			6		3			
	2	4		7		9	6	
	5		9		4		1	
		3				7		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy = 27

5 7 7 8

Medium = 21

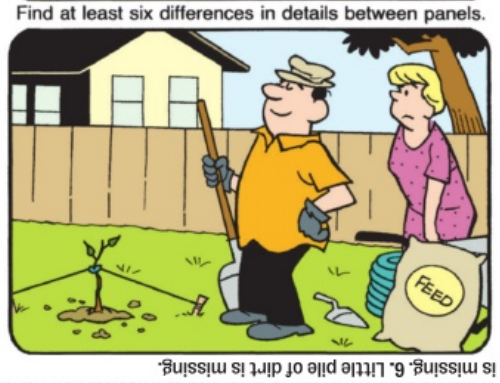
2 4 7 7

Hard = 36

2 6 8 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



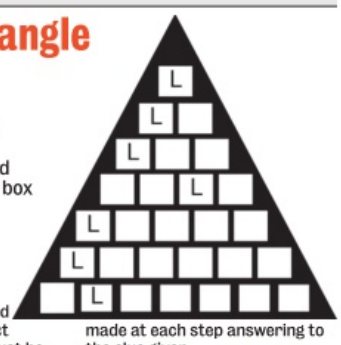
Differences: 1. Word is moved. 2. Window is moved. 3. Man is thinner. 4. Hair is different. 5. Wheelbarrow handle is missing. 6. Little pile of dirt is missing.

Riddler

Starting with I add a letter and shuffle to make a new word each time and continue until you reach STRICKEN.

Alpha triangle

1 Learner's plate
2 'Behold!'
3 August sign
4 Windsor welfare
5 Galloped easily
6 Cut off or severed
7 Did poorly at the box office

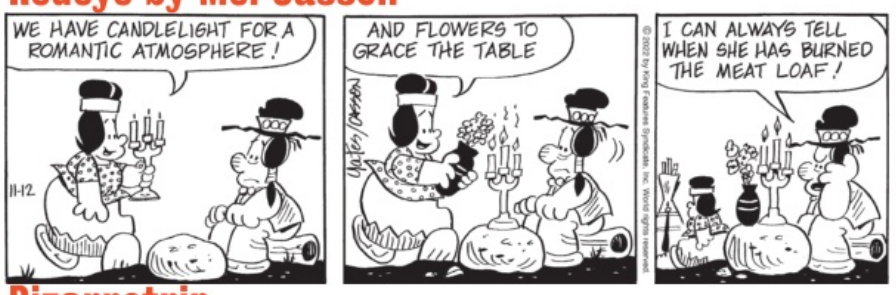


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson


WE HAVE CANDLELIGHT FOR A ROMANTIC ATMOSPHERE!
AND FLOWERS TO GRACE THE TABLE
I CAN ALWAYS TELL WHEN SHE HAS BURNED THE MEAT LOAF!
11-12.

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR FOOTBALL!
OUCH!
WHAT?
WHY DO I HAVE TO SAY GOODBYE? WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH IT??
NOTHING, HEART.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHARLES SCHULZ!

Crankshaft

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO!?
I CAN'T FIX A THANKSGIVING TURKEY WITHOUT A STOVE!
THIS IS BAD...
WITHOUT A TURKEY... THANKSGIVING IS JUST ANOTHER DAY!
11-19

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. You can make new plans in terms of business. Your colleagues may help you implement these plans. You may recover your stuck money from clients, which may boost liquidity in business. After late evening you may feel some depression. It may affect sound sleep.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you have better control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Decisions in legal matters may be in your favour. Your seniors may be happy because of your hard work. You may get new responsibilities in terms of promotion. Singles may find their soulmate.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may be happy. You may plan to buy some creative items, which may improve your lifestyle. You may also spend money on your friends and family members. You can plan to make investments in assets. Singles may find a good match. Lovebirds may enjoy important moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be seeking peace of mind. The moon's blessings may help you focus on yourself. Investments in property and other assets are advised to be avoided. You may have some happy moments in your domestic life, but it is advised to avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse. Disputes with your business partner are likely to be resolved.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be polite with the people around you. Many problems are likely to be resolved with your way of speaking. There may be some control between savings and expenditure, which may boost your financial health. You may spend money on buying some creative items to renovate your house.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are advised to control your way of speaking in the family. Loose talking may affect your family harmony. You may spend your hard earned money on buying some worthless items to maintain your social status, but it is advised not to keep your money loose in the pocket. You may face problems related to ears, teeth, and throat.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is a good day for you. You have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work and your domestic life may be good too. Healthy partnerships will give you benefits in terms of business. Jobseekers will find suitable work. Lovebirds should avoid discussions on self-respect issues.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you must control your way of speaking. You should be careful in terms of hidden enemies and opponents. You may be a victim of conspiracy. It is advised to avoid making investments in risky assets. You must avoid lending money to anyone as it may not be recoverable easily. You are advised to do meditation and yoga to come out of stress.

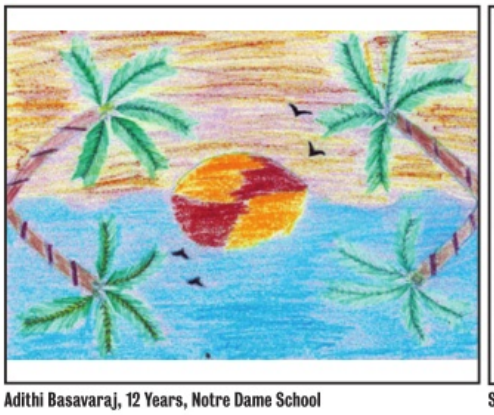
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you will be a victim of negative thoughts. Impatience and arrogance will push you back from taking tough decisions. You will be in need of blessing from your elders which will help you to grow into your work front. Avoid investments in dead assets. Lovebirds should avoid discussions regarding bad moments.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are in a winning position against your opponents and hidden enemies. Your money which was stuck may be recovered today. You may perform your best at work. It is an important day for lovebirds and singles to take important decisions in terms of marriage.

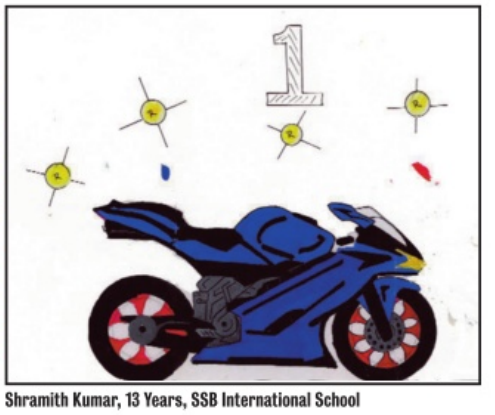
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day for you. Last weeks' crunch is over now. You may re-initiate your postponed projects. You may get rewards for your hard work, which may boost your confidence. There are some gains in your business, which may boost your finances. Those related to export and import, fashion, dairy products may do well.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dull. You may have health issues. Overworking your mind can make you tired. It may affect your domestic harmony. You may be late to a social or family get-together. Losses may be possible in business. It is advised not to invest in new business. Lovebirds should avoid being involved in controversies.

KIDZONE



Adithi Basavaraj, 12 Years, Notre Dame School



Shramith Kumar, 13 Years, SSB International School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(1/4)*√(8/4096)
(1/4)*√16 = (1/4)*4 = 1

BULL'S EYE
lass, LAWLESS, sell, slaw, slew, swell

RIDDLER
One solution is: I, IT, SIT, STIR, SKIRT, STRIKE, STICKER, STRICKEN

FAST FIVE

C	A	N	T	S
I	M	A	U	M
G	A	T	O	R
A	G	I	L	E
M	A	T	C	H

QUOTE UNCODE
Don't bother looking at the view – I have already composed it. – Gustav Mahler

STRIKE OUT

C	O	M	P	E	L	S		O	V	E	R	S		
L	A		G		A	P	S	E	S		L			
I	G	N	O	R	E	D		A	S	S	A	I		
Q		G		E		D			T		G			
U	N	L	I	T		E	S	P	A	R	T	O		
E		E		A	N	T	S		U					
S	A	D	D	L	E		A	I	D	I	N	G		
	C		B	O	N	N		S		E				
D	E	M	E	S	N	E		A	B	O	I	L		
R		L		A		S		D		A				
E	R	I	E		R	E	D	C	O	A	T			
A		A	D	L	I	B		I	N		I			
D	O	W	E	L		Y	U	C	A	T	A	N		

QUICK

													D	
						C	O	N	T	E	S	T	S	
													E	
													W	

MENSA PUZZLE
D: each horizontal and vertical line contains a circle, triangle and diamond. Also one square has no line, one has a vertical line and one a horizontal line.

SUDOKU

4	9	8	7	1	5	6	2	3
1	3	7	4	2	6	5	8	9
5	6	2	8	3	9	1	7	4
3	8	1	2	5	7	4	9	6
6	4	5	1	9	8	2	3	7
2	7	9	6	4	3	8	5	1
8	2	4	3	7	1	9	6	5
7	5	6	9	8	4	3	1	2
9	1	3	5	6	2	7	4	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE
L, Lo, Leo, Dole, Loped, Lopped, Flopped.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 7 + 5 + 7 = 27
Medium
7 x 4 / 2 + 7 = 21
Hard
8 x 4 + 6 − 2 = 36

LOOP

KAKURO

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DJ Vicky

Bollywood actor Vicky Kaushal will be seen playing the titular role of DJ Mohabbat in the Anurag Kashyap directorial 'Almost Pyaar with DJ Mohabbat'. This marks the fourth collaboration between Anurag Kashyap and the actor.

Talking about Vicky Kaushal's special role in the film, Anurag Kashyap said: "The character of DJ Mohabbat is so integral to the story, that I wanted someone special to play it. DJ Mohabbat is the voice of love, and is the conduit between two stories and I wanted someone who is that. Someone everyone loves because they trust and believe him." He added: "Vicky is that to me since I've known him. Always speaks his heart, never forgets, is grateful to his audience and people and the characters he plays. When I asked 'if not SRK then who?' My whole cast and my daughter and her friends in unison said Vicky Kaushal."

'Almost Pyaar with DJ Mohabbat,' which stars Alaya F and Karan Mehta, is touted to be Anurag Kashyap's ode to modern love. **-IANS**

Rita Ora, Taika Waititi are married

After months of speculation, singer Rita Ora confirmed her marriage with filmmaker Taika Waititi.

Asked about her marital status, Ora said, "You know, here we are.

Everything happens for a reason, people. I am officially off the market," during her January 27 appearance on Heart Breakfast with Jamie Theakston and Amanda Holden, reported by E News, a US-based media company.

Asked about adding Waititi's last name to her name, Ora replied, "I've definitely thought about it, but I've worked very hard for this Ora name, I have to say. But I do believe in sharing the journey. I don't know, I haven't really kind of decided yet." **-ANI**

It's personal

Saba Azad speaks up about constant close scrutiny on her personal life

Saba Azad's otherwise private life got disrupted ever since her relationship rumours with Hrithik Roshan started last year. Now, the actor-singer has revealed how awkward it feels when people talk about your personal life. During a recent interview with a media outlet Saba admitted that showbiz is one industry wherein a person's personal life is discussed too much.

It was February last year when the rumours about Hrithik and Saba's relationship first started after they were seen together on a dinner date. Later on, Saba was often seen in Hrithik's family get-togethers. However, last year in May when the two walked hand-in-hand at filmmaker Karan Johar's 50th birthday bash it was all but confirmed that they are in a relationship. Incidentally, Hrithik was previously married to famous interior designer Sussanne Khan.

During the interview, when speaking about the attention her relationship with Hrithik gets from media Saba said that If one has to go to work, or anywhere else, to any other field, he/she would go to work, come back home, and nobody will discuss his/her personal life because your personal life is your business. But in showbiz it's completely different and she doesn't want to talk further about it.

Being a singer, Saba had a great start to 2023. She has sung the title track of an upcoming web series, composed by Sachin-Jigar. The song has been lapped up by all. While music keeps her busy mostly, Saba is focusing on her acting career as well. Last year, she appeared in 'Rocket Boys' and this year she has quite a few projects on the acting front lined up. **-ETimes**

Ladies in da house

Singer Shilpa Rao poses with her husband Ritesh Krishnan and Deepika Padukone

They are at present the women of the moment. They have popularised the 'Besharam rang', one on-screen and the other in the playback!

Singer Shilpa Rao took to Instagram on Sunday to treat her fans with a frame sharing with none other than Deepika Padukone. She introduced Deepika as the "BOSS LADY onscreen and offscreen". Shilpa's photographer husband Ritesh Krishnan also joined the duo for the picture-perfect frame. Shilpa captioned her frame, "With the BOSS LADY onscreen and offscreen ...

Thank you for the love and warmth each time I meet you. More power to you. @riteshkrishnan and I had a super duper night."

Fans flooded Shilpa's comment section with innovative posts.

One wrote, "She's just the body. You are the SOUL." Another fan wrote, "Nasha Chadta Rehna Chaahiye ..."

Earlier Shilpa posted a frame with the 'Pathaan' Shah Rukh Khan. From the frames, it's evident that Shilpa is enjoying her moments of fame.

Known as a soulful singer Shilpa has some chartbuster hits to her credit. 'Hardum Humdum' (Ludo), 'Tere Hawaale' (Laal Singh Chaddha) are some of her recent hits.

Shilpa and Deepika have another superhit association back in the time. In 'Bachna Ae Haseeno', Shilpa crooned 'Khuda Jaane Mein', in which Deepika sizzled with Ranbir Kapoor on-screen. **-ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

A challenge

Saptha Pavoor has been busy in Mangaluru promoting her upcoming film Thanuja. Speaking to BM over the phone, Saptha said she is confident that Thanuja that is to release on February 3 will be a success. Saptha plays the lead role of a student from a village in Shivamogga who missed a chance to write NEET but later gets to write it. "It was a challenge for me to play the lead, as the real life student Thanuja will watch this movie. She should not feel that I did not do justice to the role. This film was shot mostly at a village in Shivamogga. I adapted to the village easily as I would visit our hometown Pavoor, a village, during my vacation," said Saptha.

The young actress who is now in Ist PUC wants to focus on her education and prepare for CET.

Malashree is back

Malashree, known as Lady Amitabh Bachchan of Sandalwood, is all set to entertain her fans with – Night Curfew – that is being made in Kannada and Telugu. This film focuses just on the story and it has no songs.

"Initially, Malashree madam agreed to act in this movie but the very next day she told me that she is not interested. She told me her husband passed away during Covid and she does not want to act. But, she agreed to act after a lot of persuasion," said Ravindra Venshi.

According to the director, Night Curfew is about the problems of people, especially those affected with coronavirus, during the pandemic. "Malashree madam plays a retired army doctor who works at a private hospital while Ranjani Raghavan plays a doctor. Pramod Shetty plays a corrupt politician," the director said. Night Curfew is his third movie as a director. "Night Curfew will be a good entertainer for Malashree's fans. I am sure of its success because Malashree has acted in a movie after a gap of five years," he said.